



yellow ironweed

Verbesina alternifolia

Kingdom: Plantae
Division/Phylum: Anthophyta - flowering plants

Features

Yellow ironweed is a perennial herb with erect, branched stems that are usually winged and hairy. They may be up to six feet tall. The lower leaves are opposite each other on the stem, while the upper leaves are alternate. The leaves are hairy and may be up to 10 inches long and 3 1/2 inches wide. "Flowers" actually are clusters of tubular flowers in the center surrounded by two to ten flat ray flowers ("petals").

Natural History

Yellow ironweed grows in bottomland forests, wet meadows, and along streams. It flowers from August through October. It is common in south-central and southeast parts of the state and rare in north-central Iowa.

Habitats

bottomland forests

Iowa Status

uncommon, native

Iowa Range

southern two-thirds of Iowa

Bibliography

Iowa Department of Natural Resources. 2001.
Biodiversity of Iowa: Aquatic Habitats CD-ROM.